

Psalm 145:5

God is Majestic

Open your Bible to...

Psalm 145: 5 where we read that as King David contemplated the awesome wonder of God, His divine attributes, His faithful love, and the glory of His nature, he wrote...

“I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works.”

That is, David tells us that God is majestic!

Pray

Intro

√ Intro

In the second season of the Netflix series, *The Crown*, we are treated to a profound demonstration of the majesty of the British Royal Family.

The back story of episode 8 is that Queen Elizabeth II had been offended by remarks supposedly made by Jackilyn Kennedy who riding high on her European popularity had told the press that she thought Buckingham Palace was dated and dusty...

...and that the Queen herself was out of touch and unattractive!

In response the Queen agreed for a private meeting with Mrs. Kennedy at Windsor Castle where she thought to put Jackilyn in her place!

The scene unfolds with Jackie exiting her limo to make her way into the castle *by herself*—no secret service or bodyguards to protect her or to prop up her self-esteem.

However, her progress toward the castle is immediately hindered as the Household Cavalry ride by in their stunning scarlet dress tunics, silver helmets and white plumes.

As Jackie watches a herald shouts out...

“Make way for the Queen’s Guard”

Intimidated the Mrs. Kennedy steps aside to allow the riders to trot by in perfect formation on their sleek, strong matching black horses without so much as a sideways glance at the President’s wife!

As the last rider passes the Grenadier Guards armed with rifles and their famous bearskin headdresses march by while their sergeant calls out cadence...

...again, without even the slightest acknowledgment that Mrs. Kennedy exists!

Jackie is then escorted by the Queen’s Private Security into the castle where she is left alone to pass under the protective gaze of the elite guards known as the Blues and Royals...

...who stand like stone sentinels lining the halls and guarding every step up the stairs that lead to her audience with the Queen.

Jackie glances nervously at the drawn swords of the soldiers who stand ready to defend the Queen from any threat to their beloved Elizabeth.

We watch Jackie’s face and see that any trace of self-confidence, pride, or assurance that she might once have

had in her beauty or popularity drain from her face as she recognizes that here in Windsor Castle is the true measure of Camelot.

As she finally enters the presence of the Queen in all of her royal splendor and the glory of Windsor all that Jackie can do is bow her head and address the Queen simply as...

"Your Majesty"

How much if any of *The Crown's* retelling of the story is true or accurate is hotly debated, but this much we can be sure of...

The British have perfected ceremony, pageantry and the display of royal splendor!

They understand something about the concept of majesty!

But all the glittering gold crowns, polished Oak, royal jewels, smartly dressed soldiers and the tradition of the Royal Family are but a dim reflection of the majesty of God! For the Bible tells us that God's majesty is so great...

That the mountains tremble in His presence (Hab. 3:10).

That at the sound of His voice the mighty trees of Lebanon are splintered, and the earth is melted (Ps. 29:4-5 & Ps. 46:6).

That when confronted with His splendor and the display of His awesome power His enemies cower in terror or try to hide from His face in holes in the ground (Isa. 2:10).

That the brilliance of His Being is so great that no man can see the fulness of His glory (1 Tim. 6:16).

And that one day all that He has created will flee from the presence of His face to be dissolved and replaced by new

heavens and a new earth that will refract His majesty
(Rev. 20:11)!

To experience the majesty of God's is to be overwhelmed by what our ears hear, our eyes see, and our minds are able to comprehend...

...of His glory, His matchless beauty, the infinite power of His might, and the totality of His being is such that if we were exposed to His majesty that we would with Isaiah fall down and declare...

*“Woe is me, for I am undone!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;
For my eyes have seen the King,
The Lord of hosts.”
Isaiah 6:5*

The majesty of the Lord puts us in our place!

God is Majestic ~ a definition

√ Definition

Whenever we talk about God's attributes, we must keep at the forefront of our thinking that He is One...

Which means that God is one in His nature.

As such God doesn't have compartments within Himself nor division in His Being.

Everything that God is—every one of His attributes, exist in perfect harmony without any imperfection, contradiction or dilution of Himself.

The point is that we cannot separate any of God's attributes from one another.

So, when we speak of the attribute of God's majesty, we must understand it in the light of all of His attributes...thus, the attribute of His majesty is best understood to be the grand display of everything that He is...

His majesty is the splendor of His awe-inspiring beauty.

His majesty is the radiance of His perfections.

His majesty is the admiration and wonder we experience when we contemplate His unlimited size and power.

His majesty is the sound of His all-encompassing voice.

Everything about God, everything that He is, every expression of His nature communicates that He is above all, rules over all, and exists in a class of One...

Which brings joy and excitement to the hearts of His children and abject terror to His enemies!

With that introduction let's now consider the witness of the apostles and prophets as they describe and define what it means when the Bible speaks of the majesty of God.

√ Biblical words

In the Old Testament the Hebrew words used to describe God's majesty and His majestic ways include...

Gaavah, which means...

“Majesty, rise up, be highly exalted.”

Gaon...

“Exaltation, eminence, excellent, glory and pomp.”

Gedullah...

“Greatness, dignity, and honor.”

Hadar...

“Honor, splendor, dignity and ornament.”

Turning to the New Testament the Lord’s disciples were inspired to use two Greek words to communicate God’s majesty...

Megaleiotes (meg-al-i-ot'-ace)...

Which is the word used by Peter to describe the visible splendor of Jesus when He was revealed in the fulness of His glory at the transfiguration (ref. 2Peter 1:16).

Megalosune (meg-al-o-soo'-nay)...

Which the author of Hebrews used to describe the glory of God the Father in His Heavenly throne room (ref. Hebrews 1:3).

Putting it all together when the Bible speaks of the attribute of God’s majesty it means that He is unsurpassed in His greatness, eminence, exaltation and glory, such that when we think on the nature of God’s majesty, we understand that He is the...

Greatest ~ He has no rival to His beauty, power, holiness, wisdom, knowledge, and size.

Preeminent above all ~ with no equal regarding the honor, prestige, and admiration of His perfect and sinless character.

Outstanding ~ that is, He is higher and transcends all that He has created in His brilliance, splendor and the glory of His Person.

All of these contemplations of the majestic God are meant to lead us—you and me to recognize and acknowledge that He alone is worthy to receive all honor, glory, praise and the worship of men and of angels...

...for God alone is perfect in majesty!

The Biblical Foundation for God's Majesty

√ The Biblical record

We turn now to the testimony of scripture where we find that over the course of time God has allowed some of His people the privilege to catch a tiny glimpse of His majesty so that they might record it for our instruction and admonition.

For example, many years after the Transfiguration we find that Peter was still so impacted by the awesome display of Jesus' majesty that he tell us...

“For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.” ~ 2Peter 1:16

Echoing Peter's reflection, the psalmist describes the splendor of the Father in this way...

*“O Lord my God, You are very great:
You are clothed with honor and majesty...”*

Psalm 104:1

Another Psalmist tells us that even God's Name is above and beyond all other names...

*“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic (“excellent” NKJV)
is your name in all the earth!” ~ Psalm 8:1 ESV*

The prophet Isaiah spoke with awe as he compared the majesty of God to the mortification of man, penning...

*“Enter into the rock, and hide in the dust, from the
terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty. The
lofty looks of man shall be humbled, the haughtiness
of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall
be exalted in that day.”*

Isaiah 2:10-11

And finally, we consider the anonymous author of Hebrews who wrote that God is

“...the Majesty on high...” ~ Hebrews 1:3

Clearly the God revealed on the pages of the Bible is far above and beyond not only human beings but also the false gods invented by the imagination of men...

Idols—gods formed in the image of men who are weak and beset with imperfections.

The Bible declares that only the God of Israel, the God made known to Mankind by the testimony of Creation, the revelation of His word found in the Bible, and in the Person of Jesus Christ is majestic!!

The Implications of God's Majesty

√ Implications

As we read in our opening text David reminds us that it's good to regularly meditate on God's greatness in part that we might consider the implications of His majesty in our lives...

...to the end that we would order our lives around His will by giving Him preeminence in every decision we make in life.

- 1) God's majesty should lead people to worship God—and Him alone.

That is, when we meditate on God's majesty, it should cause us to recognize and acknowledge that there is no one like Him!

From the brilliance of the glory that radiates from His presence in a cascade of rainbow colors to the fire that proceeds from His throne...

...to the fact that in His presence no one, and nothing can detract from His glory, nor wrestle our affection from Him, or compete with the sound of His voice.

His majesty demands that we worship Him and Him alone!

Which is exactly what we find the *inhabitants of Heaven* doing this very morning where they have and always will be eternally focused on worshipping God!

Listen to how as John describes the Heavenly scene in Revelation 4:8...

“(The seraphim) do not rest day or night, saying:

*“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!”*

Then as John’s eyes move from the throne of God to take in the expanse of the Heavenly scene he tells us that there are...

“...twenty-four elders (who) fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

*“You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created.”*
Revelation 4:8-11

The point is that all of Heaven—from the angelic host to the saints from every age, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders are all worshipping God and God alone!

And as John learned that if he or anyone might think for even a moment to worship anyone but God there is an angel in Heaven who stands ready to redirect our wrong thinking saying...

“See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!” ~ Revelation 19:10

The point is that as believers and followers of Jesus it is our privilege and duty to worship God as His majesty demands...

And we're not to wait for Heaven, rather we are called to worship God today on this side of eternity.

Not just through the songs we sing when we gather here at church, but to worship Him daily by conducting our lives as a living sacrifice to do His will (ref. Romans 12:1-2).

So, make it your habit to think often on the majesty of God so that you never lose the awesome wonder of Him who spun the worlds into existence...

...and who loves you so much that He sent His only Son to die in our place that we might shake off the shackles of death to enjoy the eternal blessings of Heaven.

- 2) God's majesty should lead us to walk in humility with one another

That's the point that the prophet Micah made when he wrote...

*“He has shown you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justly, to love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God?”
Micah 6:8*

The idea is that when we have a proper view of God in all of His majesty, splendor, glory and power then...

We discover that we have no basis for pride or arrogance in our lives for all that we are and all that we have is a gift from God.

God's majesty should humble us—put us in our place because in view of Him we recognize that we are nothing when compared to the majestic God!

That knowledge should impact not just our relationship with God but as Micah's inspired words remind us, but should also...

...impact our relationship with one another so that we might choose to walk humbly with our fellow man whom God has called us to love, serve and share our faith with.

Ap. Don't ignore God's instruction to walk in humility

Nebuchadnezzar learned the hard way that God's majesty should bring about a sober view of oneself and humility toward both God and our fellow Man!

You may remember that even after Nebuchadnezzar was warned by Daniel to put away his pride...that later as the Babylonian king surveyed the glory of the kingdom that God had given him, he wrongly concluded...

"Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?" ~ Daniel 4:30

While the words were still in his mouth God judged that prideful view of himself, drove Nebuchadnezzar from his kingdom, and made him to eat grass like a dumb cow until he confessed...

*“I blessed the Most High (the Majestic One) and
praised and honored Him who lives forever...”*

Daniel 4:34

The point here is that the majesty of God should melt away any and all pride that we might have about ourselves, the things we’ve done, and the honors we’ve won...

For all that we and everyone else is and has is ultimately a gift from God!

That was what Paul wrote to his arrogant friends at Corinth when he rebuked them for their pride...

“Who made you better than your brother? Or what do you have that has not been given to you? If God has given you everything, why do you have pride? Why do you act as if He did not give it to you?”

1Corinthians 4:7

A proper view of God’s majesty is a sure cure of sinful pride and a reminder that...

...if we don’t acknowledge the majesty of God, He is quite able to humble us until like Nebuchadnezzar we learn that only God is majestic!

The Blessings & Benefits of God’s Majesty

√ Blessings & Benefits

The majesty of God brings many blessings and benefits to the believer because it reminds God’s people in every age that He

has sovereign control over every and all circumstances that we will face in life, therefore...

1) His majesty is a source of hope and comfort in difficult times

In every generation people like you and me are subject to times of great uncertainty, trial, tribulation, and catastrophic events which threaten to rob us of the peace, security and hope that we have in Christ.

Whether it be the threat of war, famine, pestilence, economic hardship, homelessness, or persecution.

There is much in this Fallen world that would drive us to despair!

Yet for the Christian who has a proper grasp of God's majesty there is great comfort and a sure hope for a better future because God's majesty assures us...

That He cannot be defeated because by His majestic power we can be sure that He will conquer all of our enemies.

That His plans cannot be thwarted because His majestic sovereignty overrules every plot and plan of Man and Demon so we can be sure that we will be not be overcom!

His majestic word will not return void but will in fact accomplish all that He has promised so we can be sure that our future is secure!

Thus, God's majesty provides us with the comfort and hope we need to face life without fear or doubt in the knowledge that we will be victorious in the end...

...and that our present sufferings will produce all the good in our lives that our majestic God has promised!

Ap. A word of caution

God's majesty *doesn't* mean that He will take away every difficulty from our present lives.

But God's majesty does provide us with the *right perspective* so that we can have the faith to believe that God will use every difficulty and every challenging circumstance for our good.

With that perspective we can be confident that Romans 8:28 will come to pass in our lives.

And that we can be sure that our faith and love in Jesus will be vindicated in the end.

That knowledge is what gave the disciples and the saints down through the ages the strength to endure hardships, whether it was an angry mob, an unjust prison sentence, or an incurable disease...

...and will give us all that we need to faithfully live out the life that God has ordained for us that we might bring Him the glory His majesty deserves!

See Hebrews 11 for a word of encouragement!

2) God's majesty assures us that the humble will be exalted

The point here is that history is *not* the result of random chance nor of the power of Man to build empires unto themselves...

Rather, history is *His—Story*, a story that began at Creation and is moving toward a God-ordained end.

A glorious end that the kingdoms of men, the empires established by dictators and tyrants, and godless nations cannot thwart.

An end where the rebellion of Man and Satan against the benevolent will of God will be finally crushed.

So, we can be confident that we aren't just powerless Pawns who are subject to the conquests of evil men and fate.

Rather that God's majesty assures us that even the smallest of the saints who has been faithful to play their God ordained part in this life will be exalted to share in God's glory for eternity.

A glory greater than the wealth of Babylon, the strength of Persia, the speed of Alexander's army, and the glory of Rome!

For God has promised to those who follow Jesus on the path of humility that we will be...

"heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together." ~ Romans 8:17

God's majesty reminds us that the path to significance and eternal glory is found in following Jesus on the path of humility...

...not the path of self-promotion, greed and lust that Satan and the world system promotes.

Close

√ God is Majestic

We need this study of God's majesty because the splendor and awe-inspiring glory of God that can be seen in Creation has been obscured by the advances of Modern Man.

Case in point, on January 17, 1994, the Northridge quake knocked out the power in the Los Angeles basin. That night frantic calls began pouring into emergency centers to report a “giant silvery cloud” in the sky!

That giant silvery cloud—it was simply the Milky Way that people had never seen before due to the light pollution of Southern California.

The silent testimony of God’s majesty that is dimmed by the ambient light of our cities.

So, it goes today where...

Much of our days are spent in manmade cubicles that block our view of the marvels of God’s Creation.

We invest way too much time staring at phony AI generated content on our phones, computers and TV monitors rather than surveying the reality of God’s creative genius displayed in flowers, sunsets and the face of a child.

The impact of all these manmade veils upon the souls is the diminishment of our esteem of God’s majesty that cheats us of the childlike wonder that God intended us to enjoy when we look upon the testimony of His majesty as seen in His Creation

So, this week follow the call of God that He spoke to the ancient heroes of the faith to...

“(Come) outside and, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.”

Genesis 15:5

So that like David, we would find ourselves with a fresh appreciation of the majestic God who cares for us!

“When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?”

Psalm 8:3-4

What indeed is Man? God’s majesty puts us in our place...

...strips us of our pride but then exalts the person who chooses to follow Jesus to share in God’s eternal glory!